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reveals the point of view of the author and indicates that the limitations and shortcomings of his treatment are largely due to the undue emphasis placed upon the career of the individual.

Dr. Alexander presents many excellent pen portraits and characterizations of the leading politicians. His account of the rise and operations of the Tweed ring and its final overthrow is especially well done, as is also that of the schism in the New York Republican party and the strife which followed between the "Stalwarts" and "Half-breeds," and the resulting election of Cleveland as governor.

Only occasionally does the author's political bias portray itself. He has made excellent and discriminating use of the newspapers and other contemporary literature, and the exact citation of his sources and the handling of secondary but important details in the footnotes is commendable. His style is clear, interesting and vigorous, occasionally perhaps a trifle too vigorous to suit the purist, as he sometimes lapses into colloquial English, as when he states that "Weed wabbled in his loyalty" (p. 85), "The Tilden managers shiver," and "threatened them with heart-failure" (p. 343). Also some of the striking page captions suggest the head lines of a yellow journal, as the following examples will demonstrate: "Lincoln's Iron Nerve" (p. 105), "A Bunch of Bad Men" (p. 177), "A Blow Below the Belt" (p. 369), "The Fate of Old Dog Tray" (p. 387), "Conkling Down and Out" (p. 464). An excellent index to the three volumes concludes the work.

So satisfactory in general is this history of New York, that we would express the hope that Dr. Alexander may be led to continue his study and add a fourth volume to the series covering, let us say, the two decades since 1882, the date of the close of his last volume.

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Barker, J. Ellis. *Great and Greater Britain.* Pp. ix, 380. Price, \$3.00.
New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1910.

The appearance of a volume dealing with some of the more important British national and imperial problems is especially timely, but this book does not, however, deal extensively with the particular issues raised by the recent political agitations in the United Kingdom. The volume attempts to forecast the future of Britain: whether it is to be continued greatness or decay. The consideration of this question involves a discussion of the large problems confronting British interests, as, for example, naval and military policies, industry, unemployment and physical degeneration, foreign policy and the question of the colonies. The chief emphasis is laid on the necessity for military and naval efficiency, nearly half the book being devoted to the discussion of those subjects from various points of view.

In general the book is good, in that it presents more or less clearly some of the serious problems which the future holds for British rule. Yet in many respects the book hardly fulfills the expectations of the reader. For

example, the question of the British colonies is vitally important in the future of Britain, and should properly receive careful consideration. It is true that the author has included a chapter on "Will the Colonies Secede?" but instead of discussing the colonies, the condition in them and their relations to the empire, the entire chapter of more than twenty pages is devoted to a rehash of the causes leading to the loss of the American colonies, after which the chapter ends with the somewhat inane question, "Will history repeat itself?" Again, the average reader can be only wearied by the long recital of the virtues of Cromwell's army, under the caption, "The Model Army of England," and even more so by the long drawn out discussion of the collapse of France in 1870 and its lesson to England. These two chapters are accorded seventy full pages, whereas the great questions of British industry, labor, emigration and poverty receive a scant twenty-five.

Less harping on the importance of readiness for war and a greater appreciation of problems of more immediate significance would have added materially to the value and interest of the book.

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The Cambridge Modern History. Volume XI. *The Growth of Nationalities.*

Pp. xxxix, 1044. Price, \$4.00. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1909.

This volume of the Cambridge Modern History covers approximately the years from 1845 to 1871, "an epoch of violent international disturbance, interposed between two generations of almost unbroken peace." It is the period marked by the upheavals of 1848, the subsequent reaction till 1859, and the decade of struggle which culminated in the unification of Italy and the consolidation of Germany; twenty-five years of epoch-making history, whose events are of much more than usual significance. The editors and authors had therefore an excellent opportunity; they had to deal with forces and events of a very positive character, and in several cases at least with the most important historical phenomena of the nineteenth century.

Aside from the topics that would necessarily find a place in a volume on this period, we note the commendable introduction of studies on the patriotic and nationalistic literature of the different peoples. Thus we have "German Literature, 1840-1870," by K. Bruell; "The National Spirit in Hungarian Literature," by A. B. Yolland, Professor of English Literature at the University of Budapest; "The Reaction Against Romanticism in French Literature, 1840-1871," by Professor Emile Bourgeois; "The Literature of the *Risorgimento* and After, 1846-1870," by C. Segré, Professor in the University of Rome; "National Influences in Bohemian and Polish Literature;" "Dano-Norwegian Literature, 1815-1865," and "Russian Literature, 1800-1900." Less directly connected with the nationalist movement in Europe are the chapters on "British Free Trade and Commercial Progress," on "The Indian Mutiny and British Colonial Affairs," and on "The Awakening of Japan."

Like the other volumes of the Cambridge Modern History this is the
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